



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Huntington District

Marmet Locks and Dam Replacement Project

April 2004 Issue No. 6

Construction Activities

by Kokosing Fru-Con

This monthly newsletter is provided as a courtesy of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers as a way to keep the citizens of Belle, W.Va. up-to-date on activities during construction of the replacement lock at Marmet locks and dam. The newsletter will provide information on current and future activities throughout the construction of the replacement lock to those who expressed an interest in receiving the newsletter from previous editions.

If you know someone who would like to receive future copies, complete the form on the back page.

Information Meeting

The Corps of Engineers and Marmet lock replacement contractor Kokosing Fru-Con will conduct an information workshop/open house regarding the Marmet Lock replacement project, **Thursday, June 17, 2004**, at the office of Kokosing Fru-Con, located at 1901 West Dupont Avenue. The public is invited to stop by anytime between 4:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The workshop will provide information about the ongoing construction activities. Representatives from the Corps and Kokosing Fru-Con will be available to answer questions. As in the past, tours of the construction site will be offered.

In addition, Kokosing-Frucon will provide barbeque and refreshments for those attending the workshop.

For more information, contact Mike Keathley at 304-399-5864 or email Michael.Keathley@lrh01.usace.army.mil.

The contractor has begun the actual construction of the walls which will form the new lock. On March 23, the contractor placed concrete with three-inch maximum size aggregate into monolith L-7 which will form one block of the future downstream guidewall.

April 8, 2004 marked another milestone at the project. Based upon agreements reached between the Government and the contractor, crews quickly installed the timber needles in the cofferdam spillway structure. The area within the cofferdam is now safe from flooding at all but the highest river levels.

March and April saw continued progress on the upstream guidewall work. Work activities have moved downstream and are currently on the riverbank behind the Moss residence. Specialty crews from as far away as Germany continue to construct concrete shafts which extend 15 feet into the bedrock. These shafts, when complete, will form the foundation for the upstream guidewall which will guide barges into and out of the new lock. Work is proceeding well, and completion is expected in mid-May. The contractor anticipates continuing to work day shift only.

The dirt covering the rock foundations for the new lock is being excavated with backhoes and hauled to the disposal embankment at the north end of the project. Although excavation and embankment can be performed day and night, the lime stabilization of the disposal embankment has been restricted to the night time hours when winds are less likely to move dust off the project site.

Sufficient bedrock has now been exposed to allow exploratory drilling to begin. The contractor is currently drilling into the rock foundation and recovering rock samples. The government is analyzing each sample to determine the best rock elevation for the lock foundation. Much of the rock excavation necessary to reach the best rock elevation will require the use of very controlled drilling and blasting. The drilling and

See Contractor Activities (continued on page 2)

Who to contact for information:

Mike Keathley, Project Manager.....304-399-5864
Dennis Hughes, Resident Engineer.....304-949-1935
Cell phone.....304-360-0292
Peggy Noel, Public Affairs.....304-399-5551



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blasting will occur immediately adjacent to the existing lock only during daylight hours. The amount of blast induced vibration is strictly controlled by contract so as to eliminate the possibility of damage to the existing lock, neighboring homes and businesses. Rock excavation is scheduled to start in mid-June.

While the contractor continues to aggressively pursue the completion of the project, the Government is actively pursuing the necessary funding to ensure that the completion of the project is not delayed by a lack of funds.

Mark June 17, 2004 on your calendar. The project will again host an open house with tours of the project and a picnic barbecue.

This photo shows the first concrete placement for the lower approach wall. These concrete placements, or monoliths, will be placed in five-foot lifts. When completed, there will be about 80 monoliths. These monoliths will form the new lock.

Visit our new Marmet Lock Replacement Project website to keep up-to-date on current construction activities.
<http://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/projects/Marmet/>

Community Relations

The Corps is pleased to announce that Dennis Hughes will serve as community liaison for the Marmet lock replacement project. Dennis is a West Virginia native, a graduate of West Virginia Tech, and registered as a professional engineer in the State of West Virginia. He has been employed by the Corps of Engineers since 1987 and has been involved with many construction projects including the Robert C. Byrd Locks Replacement Project, the Robert C. Byrd Dam Rehabilitation Project, the West Columbus Local Protection Project, Beach City Dam Safety Improvements, Belleville Locks, and London Lock Extension. He has also had oversight for a number of Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste projects.

As the Point of Contact and community liaison, Dennis will make every effort to be responsive to questions and concerns from the community. If you need to contact him, please call the Resident Engineer Office at the construction site at 304-949-1935. If there is no answer, Dennis or an alternate will have an emergency cell phone that you can call 24 hours a day. That number is 304-360-0292.

If you know someone who would like to receive future copies of the Marmet Newsletter, complete the form below and return to Mike Keathley, US Army Corps of Engineers, 502 8th Street, Huntington, WV 25701-2070 or send us an email requesting to be added to the mailing list.

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